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**DIRECTOR'S OFFICE  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3800**

Silverbrook Research Pty Ltd.  
393 Darling Street  
Balmain, 2041  
AUSTRALIA

Paper No. 7

In re Application of:	:	
Kia Silverbrook et al.	:	
Serial No. 09/575,197	:	<b>DECISION ON PETITION</b>
Filed: May 23, 2000	:	<b>TO MAKE SPECIAL</b>
For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR	:	<b>(ENERGY) OR (ENVIRONMENT)</b>
ONLINE PAYMENTS	:	

This is a decision on the petition filed on March 13, 2003 under 37 CFR 1.102 (c) to make the above-identified application special under the accelerated examination procedure set forth in MPEP 708.02, Section V: Environmental Quality, or alternatively, Section VI: Energy.

A grantable petition to make an application special under 37 C.F.R. 1.102 (c), MPEP 708.02, Section VI for an invention which materially contributes to (A) the discovery or development of energy resources, or (B) the more efficient utilization and conservation of energy resources must be accompanied by statements under 37 CFR 1.102 by applicant or his attorney explaining how the invention materially contributes to category (A) or (B) set forth above.

The petition states that "energy savings from a reduction in paper use are substantial" and sets forth the energy cost of manufacturing paper in 1998. The petition further states that "if the amount of paper in those newspapers was halved by using the Netpage system disclosed" in the application "the power savings in the US would be...equal to the output of about four full scale nuclear, coal, or natural gas electricity generating plants. Similar energy savings can be achieved for magazines, direct mail, and other printed media." These statements, along with the technical overview of the manner in which applicant's invention will be used, are adequate to establish for the record that the invention "materially contributes to the more efficient utilization and conservation of energy resources."

For the above stated reasons, the petition is **GRANTED**.

In view of the granting of the Petition to make Special based upon energy, any determination of the environment grounds for making the application special is now moot and thus will not be treated on those grounds.

The examiner is directed (1) to make an interference search for possible interfering applications; (2) to promptly examine this application out of turn; and (3) if any interfering application is discovered, to examine such application simultaneously and state in the first official letter of such application that it is being taken out of turn because of a possible interference.

Petitioner is advised that this application will continue to be special, throughout its entire prosecution and pendency, including interference and appeal, if any, only if petitioner makes a prompt *bona fide* effort, in response to each Office action, to place the application in condition for allowance, even if it is necessary to conduct an interview with the examiner to accomplish this purpose.



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SNM/tpl: 4/3/03